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REPORT CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY

Hungary

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1951

**SUBJECT** 

Political - Party constitution, Organization

DATE DIST. 7 May 1951

WCH

**PUBLISHED** Daily newspaper

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** 

Budapest

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE

**PUBLISHED** 

3 Mar 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Hungarian

REPORT NO.

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## AMEND HUNGARIAN WORKERS PARTY CONSTITUTION

During the recent congress of the Hungarian Workers Party, Istvan Hidas, secretary of the Budapest Party Committee, proposed certain changes in the party constitution, as outlined below. The proposed changes were subsequently adopted.

The DISZ (Association of Working Youth) was formed after the first congress of the Hungarian Workers Party. Since the DISZ is a reservoir of Communism, its members should be admitted to the party at the age of 18. One of the sponsors of the young candidates may be the DISZ itself. In this connection the following amendment, defining the relationship between the party and the DISZ, was added to the party constitution: "DISZ is the youth organization of the Hungarian Workers Party. It is an active agent in helping the party to build socialism and to educate youth. The work of the DISZ committees and organs is directed by the various party committees or by local party organizations."

Another amendment concerns the organization of political departments, which will assign organizers in fields where the strengthening of the party is of particular importance. Party organizers have already been assigned to the railroads, agricultural machine stations, certain units of the armed forces, and to most of the larger building enterprises. A special section will be set up for party organizers assigned to the armed forces; this appears necessary in the light of past experience.

A series of major and minor amendments were adopted to develop democracy within the party, safeguard the rights of party members, prevent arbitrary expulsion from the party, and simplify admittance of new members. In the future, party membership will date from the day the candidate is accepted by his particular party organization. Exclusion of a member from the party will have to be approved by the county committee or the Budapest Party Committee. This safeguard will protect members from exclusion from the party without sufficient reason.

Establishment of a Disciplinary Committee was also incorporated into the party constitution. The committee is to conduct investigations, make recommendations to the party committees, and speed up the disposition of disciplinary matters.

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In the past, party committees were organized only in the larger enterprises which employed at least 1,000 party members and candidates for membership. Under another amendment to the party constitution, the requirement has been reduced to 500 members and candidates.

Village party organizations will be granted the right to admit members with the approval of the district committee, without asking for the approval of the county committee.

To strengthen democracy within the party, the Budapest, county, district, town, and plant committees are required to call meetings at least once every 2 months. It was the concensus of opinion at the congress that this provision should be included in the party constitution, because in most cases meetings have been held infrequently in the past.

Agricultural cooperatives now number approximately 2,500, and an amendment provides that the majority of these cooperatives must have party cadres. It is desirable to set up special party organizations in the various state cooperatives, producers' cooperatives, agricultural machine stations, etc.

The basic party organization consists of ten members at present, but experience has shown that this uniformity no longer satisfies existing conditions. For this reason, an amendment, liberalizing this obsolete requirement has been incorporated into the party constitution.

It became also necessary to redefine the jurisdiction of various types of party organizations over industrial, agricultural, and other enterprises and for this purpose the following amendment was adopted: "The party committees of the enterprises, including the state farms, producers' cooperatives, and agricultural machine stations, have the right to supervise the management of their respective enterprises. On the other hand, higher party echelons are not permitted to interfere directly with the conduct of the enterprises' business."

Another amendment defines the tasks of the party committees as follows: "The tasks of the party committee are: execution of the resolutions of higher party organs; application of party policies to local conditions; propaganda for the party; improvement of the political standards of party members; dissemiration of party literature; and collection of membership dues."

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